

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 IO-10 AID-05 IGA-02 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01

SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 DODE-00

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O P 220914Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1747

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

CINCEUR PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 9302

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU, UR

SUBJECT: KOSYGIN VISIT

1. MFA SOURCES CONFIRMED TO US OVER WEEKEND THAT SOVIET
PREMIER ALEXEI KOSYGIN WILL BE PAYING STATE VISIT TO TURKEY
DECEMBER 26-30. VISIT WILL APPARENTLY BEGIN IN A
LARA AND
CONTINUE IN ISKENDERUN WHERE PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL
AND PREMIER KOSYGIN WILL ATTEND THE INAUGURATION OF A STEEL
PLANT WHICH IS BEING BUILT WITH SOVIET-SUPPLIED CREDITS.

2. COMMENT: THIS VISIT, WHICH HAS BEEN RUMORED FOR
SOME TIME, IS IN KEEPING WITH GOT ACTION SINCE THE IMPOSITION
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OF THE ARMS EMBARGO EARLIER THIS YEAR. WHILE IT DOES NOT

INDICATE ANY SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION IN TURKEY'S INTERNATIONAL ORIENTATION, IT DOES REFLECT TURKEY'S EFFORTS -- WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCELERATED SINCE ITS EMBARGO DIFFICULTIES WITH THE UNITED STATES -- TO IMPROVE ITS RELATIONSHIPS ELSEWHERE. THUS, IN THE PAST YEAR, WE HAVE SEEN TURKEY MAKING A SPECIAL EFFORT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND ESPECIALLY THOSE OTHER COUNTRIES WHO COULD HELP THEM FINANCIALLY OR OTHERWISE TO OFFSET THE EFFECTS OF THE ARMS EMBARGO. HENCE THE ACTIVITIES WE HAVE SEEN WITH THE ARAB STATES AND PAKISTAN AND IRAN, ESPECIALLY THE LATTER. IN ADDITION, THE GOT HAS EMBARKED ON A PROGRAM OF TRYING TO GET SOME OF THE CHILL AND ANTAGONISM OUT OF THE RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE NEIGHBORING IRON CURTAIN COUNTRIES. DEMIREL'S RECENT VISIT TO BULGARIA WAS PART OF THIS PROGRAM AS, IN A MORE IMPORTANT WAY, IS THE KOSYGIN VISIT HERE.

3. THE SOVIETS, FOR SOME TIME, HAVE PROVIDED SOME ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY, AND IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO LEARN WHAT NEW "QUIDS" OF THIS KIND KOSYGIN WILL BRING WITH HIM AND WHAT "QUOS" WILL BE EXECTED IN RETURN. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE DO NOT RULE OUT THE SUPPLY OF SOME SOVIET MILITARY EQUIPMENT, BUT WE CONTINUE TO FEEL THAT, REGARDLESS OF WHAT IS SAID PUBLICLY, THE GOT WILL GO SLOWLY ON THIS.

4. FINALLY, IT SHOULD BE SAID THAT WHILE THE GOT IS NOT AT THIS TIME CONTEMPLATING ANY MAJOR CHANGE IN ITS FOREIGN POLICY ORIENTATION, AN UNDOUBTED FACTOR IN THE GOT DECISION TO GO AHEAD NOW WITH A VISIT SO LONG UNDER DISCUSSION WAS ITS UTILITY AS A "SIGNAL" TO FRIENDS IN THE WEST THAT TURKEY CANNOT BE MISTREATED OR TAKEN FOR GRANTED. HAVING SAID THIS, HOWEVER, IT IS IMPORTANT TO ADD THAT IN AN ERA OF DETENTE, AS A SOVIET NEGHBOR, TURKEY COULD NOT AFFORD (EVEN IF THERE HAD BEEN NO EMBARGO) TO STAND APART FROM THE PROGRAM OF VISITS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN THE SOVIETS AND MANY OF THEIR HISTORIC ANTAGONISTS.
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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